

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Nutra-Flo Co - Sioux City

Iowa Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Recycling Reduces Costs At Nutra-Flo

Client Profile:

Nutra-Flo is a family owned manufacturer of crop nutrients (liquid plant foods, liquid zinc micronutrients, liquid phosphate fertilizers) and animal nutrients (concentrated protein, livestock mineral, protein blocks, energy tubs, and feed-grade phosphate). Nutra-Flo distributes its products to most of the world's largest feed companies and regional distributors. Founded in 1928 in Sioux City, Iowa, Nutra-Flo currently employs 135 people.

Situation:

Nutra-Flo's manufacturing processes produce a high volume of waste materials that are disposed of on a regular basis. In an effort to reduce the costs associated with disposal, Nutra-Flo contacted the Iowa Manufacturing Extension Partnership (IMEP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, and requested an assessment of the situation with possible solutions.

Solution:

IMEP assessed Nutra-Flo's disposal processes and referred the company to the Iowa Waste Exchange, an IMEP partner organization. The Iowa Waste Exchange conducted a thorough walk-through of the Nutra-Flo facilities, identifying waste materials and developing recommendations. The Iowa Waste Exchange found outlets for Nutra-Flo's broken pallets, empty paper bags, steel barrels, and spilled product. By recycling these materials to other companies for uses in production, Nutra-Flo's disposal costs were reduced by \$40,000.

Results:

Saved \$40,000 in annual waste disposal costs.

Testimonial:

"The Iowa Manufacturing Extension Partnership has helped create an environment of rooting out waste at its source. The initial visit resulted in waste reduction, which will save \$40,000 annually. We have a long way to go and need more training, but we have embarked on a relentless pursuit of excellence in manufacturing. IMEP is helping us navigate these waters by recommending training and professional advice from Iowa's universities and other professional organizations. The end result will be a leaner more efficient organization that is growing and enabling more people of the Sioux City area to

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prosper."

Raun Lohry, President